

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION Washington, DC 20463

Teresa Wheatley

DEC 0 1 2016

Round Rock, TX 78681

RE: MUR 6761

Dear Ms. Wheatley:

On November 30, 2016, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") accepted the signed conciliation agreement that you submitted in settlement of a violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30122. Accordingly, the Commission closed its file in this matter as it pertains to you.

The Commission reminds you that the confidentiality provisions of 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12)(A) remain in effect, and that this matter is still open with respect to other respondents. The Commission will notify you when the entire file has been closed.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the fully executed conciliation agreement for your files. Please note that the civil penalty is due within 30 days of the conciliation agreement's effective date. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Saurav Ghosh Attorney

Enclosure

**Executed Conciliation Agreement** 



## BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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In the matter of Teresa Wheatley

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MUR 6761
OFFICE OF GENERAL

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## **CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

This matter was initiated by a complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") by Dewhurst for Texas ("DFT"). The Commission found reason to believe that Teresa Wheatley ("Respondent") violated 52 U.S.C. § 30122.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission and Respondent, having participated in informal methods of conciliation, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, do hereby agree as follows:

- I. The Commission has jurisdiction over Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding, and this agreement has the effect of an agreement entered pursuant to 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4)(A)(i).
- II. Respondent has had a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate that no action should be taken in this matter.
  - III. Respondent enters voluntarily into this agreement with the Commission.
  - IV. The pertinent facts in this matter are as follows:
- 1. Teresa Wheatley worked as an administrative assistant to Kenneth A. "Buddy" Barfield, who served as DFT's campaign manager and assistant treasurer.
- 2. The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("Act"), prohibits any person from making a contribution in the name of another person, knowingly permitting his or her name to be used to effect such a contribution, or knowingly accepting such a contribution.

  52 U.S.C. § 30122.

- 3. An example of making a contribution in the name of another is giving money or anything of value, all or part of which was provided to the contributor by another person (the true contributor) without disclosing the source of money or the thing of value to the recipient candidate or committee at the time the contribution is made. 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(2)(i).
- 4. Emails and bank records establish that Wheatley personally directed the wire transfer of \$5,000 from the bank account of Barfield's consulting firm, Alexander Consulting Group, LLC ("AGC"), to her personal account on November 27, 2012.
- 5. Wheatley made \$5,000 in contributions to DFT in her own name on that same day, November 27, 2012.
- 6. Wheatley also wrote a \$50.00 check drawn on AGC's bank account on November 29, 2012, to reimburse her account for fees incurred when she made the wire transfer.
- V. Respondent violated 52 U.S.C. § 30122 by making \$5,000 in contributions to DFT in the name of another person, with funds she directed to her personal account from AGC's account.
- VI. 1. Respondent will pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), pursuant to 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(5)(A).
- Respondent will cease and desist from committing violations of 52 U.S.C.
   § 30122.
- VII. The Commission, on request of anyone filing a complaint under 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(1) concerning the matters at issue herein or on its own motion, may review compliance with this agreement. If the Commission believes that this agreement or any requirement thereof has been violated, it may institute a civil action for relief in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

This agreement shall become effective as of the date that all parties hereto have executed the same and the Commission has approved the entire agreement.

IX. Respondent shall have no more than thirty (30) days from the date this agreement becomes effective to comply with and implement the requirements contained in this agreement and to so notify the Commission.

X. This Conciliation Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on the matters raised herein, and no other statement, promise, or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party or by agents of either party, that is not contained within this written agreement shall be enforceable.

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Lisa Stevenson **Acting General Counsel** 

BY:

Acting Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

Weathery

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

(Position)